

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH OPIUM PROBLEM

REF.: ANKARA 2203

FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE WOLFF APPEARED IN
MARCH 20, 1974 CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

QUOTE:

(MR. WOLFF ASKED AND WAS GIVEN PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE
HOUSE FOR 1 MINUTE AND TO REVISE AND EXTEND HIS REMARKS.)

MR. WOLFF: MR. SPEAKER, 3 DAYS AGO I HELD A TALK WITH
TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER GUNES. HE TOLD ME THERE WOULD BE
NO SPRING PLANTING OF OPIUM POPPIES AND NO FURTHER
PLANTING WOULD TAKE PLACE WITHOUT PRIOR DISCUSSIONS WITH
US AUTHORITIES.

AS I INDICATED IN A SPECIAL ORDER YESTERDAY, I MADE NO
THREATS ON WITHDRAWAL OF AID.

HOWEVER, SOME PRESS REPORTS FROM TURKEY TODAY RUMOR A
BREAK OF THE BAN ON THE GROWING OF OPIUM POPPIES.

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IF THESE RUMORS BECOME FACT AND TURKEY DRAWS DOWN A CURTAIN OF POPPIES BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, LET THEM BE PUT ON NOTICE THAT THE ALMOST 300 MILLION DOLLARS IN AID WE ARE TO GIVE TURKEY IN 1974 IS IN JEOPARDY--THAT WE, IN CONGRESS, WILL NOT SIT IDLY BY WHILE THEY REESTABLISH THE FRENCH CONNECTION AND GROW OPIUM TO SHOOT HEROIN INTO THE VEINS OF YOUNG AMERICANS.

PERHAPS, THOUGH, WHEN IT COMES TO THE MILITARY AID, THEY DO NOT NEED US ANY LONGER. MAYBE THEY CAN USE POPPIES INSTEAD OF PLANES TO PROTECT THEIR PEOPLE. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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